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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 THE HAGUE 002414

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PINS](#) [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [CASC](#) [US](#) [NL](#) [AMER](#)

SUBJECT: TFUS01: STATUS REPORT ON DUTCH OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE, SEPTEMBER 6

[1](#)1. This is an action request. See paras 4-10.

[1](#)2. Summary: The Dutch Parliament on September 6 issued a brief statement expressing condolences for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and declaring its support for relief efforts. The Dutch have made several offers of assistance to the hurricane-affected area, including: the frigate HMS Van Amstel; large capacity water pumps; a levee inspection team; an amphibious transport ship (HMS Rotterdam); two F-60 transport planes; a diver platoon; a mobile drinking water installation; and construction engineers. Post has received authorization from Washington to further accept Dutch offers on the frigate, the water pumps, and the levee inspection team. The following provides a status update on each offer and requests guidance where necessary. End Summary.

Offer No. 1: HMS Van Amstel

[1](#)3. Post has received authorization from State and NORTHCOM to accept the Dutch offer of assistance from the frigate HMS Van Amstel, and has notified the Dutch MFA and MOD. The Joint Force Maritime Component Command (JFMCC) is developing a concept of operations to integrate the Van Amstel into the Naval Task Group supporting the disaster relief.

Offer No. 2: Water Pumps

[1](#)4. Post has received authorization from State and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to accept the Dutch offer of the three large-capacity water pumps and accompanying trucks, and has notified the Dutch MFA and MOD. Post has provided MFA with OFDA contact information for further coordination. The Dutch still require heavy airlift to transport the pumps to the hurricane-affected region.

- Status of Request: Post understands that the JS/J-4 Joint Logistics Operations Center is coordinating airlift and visa arrangements.

- Guidance Request: Post requests confirmation regarding the provision of DOD airlift for the pumps to the hurricane-affected region.

Offer No. 3 Levee Inspection Team

[1](#)5. Post has received authorization from State and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to accept the Dutch offer of assistance from the Ministry of Transport's levee inspection team, and has notified the MFA. Post has provided MFA with OFDA contact information for further coordination. Post stands ready to assist the travel of the inspection team to the hurricane-affected region.

Offer No. 4: Amphibious Transport Ship

[1](#)6. The Royal Netherlands Navy has offered the use of the amphibious transport ship the HMS Rotterdam, which the Dutch say can be used as a floating hospital. It has a helicopter platform and a drinking water supply. It can also transport goods, while marines on board can perform general transport tasks. The Rotterdam is currently in the Netherlands and could reach New Orleans in 14 days.

- Status of Request: Dutch MOD conveyed the request via U.S. Embassy The Hague, and via the Dutch Embassy in Washington to State. Post passed the request to EUR/UBI and the Task Force on September 2.

- Guidance Request: Post requests official Washington authorization to accept the Dutch offer of the HMS Rotterdam, and further guidance on next steps.

Offer No. 5: F-60 Transport Planes

[1](#)7. The Royal Netherlands Navy has offered the use of two F-60 Transport planes for reconnaissance, and search and rescue missions. The F-60s are currently stationed in Curacao.

- Status of Request: Dutch MOD conveyed the request via U.S. Embassy The Hague, and via the Dutch Embassy in Washington to

State. Post passed the request to EUR/UBI and the Task Force on September 2.

- Guidance Request: Post requests official Washington authorization to accept the Dutch F-60 transport aircraft offer, and further guidance on next steps.
Offer No. 6: Diver Platoon

18. The Royal Netherlands Army has offered the use of a diver platoon, which could be used for search and rescue or recovery missions.

- Status of Request: Dutch MOD conveyed the request via U.S. Embassy The Hague, and via the Dutch Embassy in Washington to State. Post passed the request to EUR/UBI and the Task Force on September 2.

- Guidance Request: Post requests official Washington authorization to accept the Dutch diver platoon offer, and further guidance on next steps.

Offer No. 7: Mobile Drinking Water Installation

19. The Royal Netherlands Army has offered the use of a mobile drinking water installation, with a capacity of 60,000 liters per day. The installation would require airlift assistance.

- Status of Request: Dutch MOD conveyed the request via U.S. Embassy The Hague, and via the Dutch Embassy in Washington to State. Post passed the request to EUR/UBI and the Task Force on September 2.

- Guidance Request: Post requests official Washington authorization to accept the Dutch water installation offer, and further guidance on next steps.

Offer No. 8: Water Management/Construction Engineers

10. The Royal Netherlands Army has offered the use of nine groups of water management/construction engineers to assist reconstruction efforts.

- Status of Request: Dutch MOD conveyed the request via U.S. Embassy The Hague, and via the Dutch Embassy in Washington to State. Post passed the request to EUR/UBI and the Task Force on September 2.

- Guidance Request: Post requests official Washington authorization to accept the Dutch offer on construction engineers, and further guidance on next steps.

BLAKEMAN